Captain Dennis Sorensen
Assistant Chief of Naval Research

Captain Sorensen graduated from Iowa State University with a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering. He was commissioned in May 1981, received his wings in September 1982 and was assigned as a Radar Intercept Officer at Fighter Squadron 101 for initial training in the F-14 Tomcat. He has deployed operationally to the Mediterranean Sea and Indian Ocean while assigned to Fighter Squadron Thirty-Three (VF-33) aboard the *USS America* (CV-66) from 1982 to 1986.

Capt. Sorensen attended the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School and is a 1987 graduate of Class 91. Upon graduation, Capt. Sorensen was assigned to the Strike Aircraft Test Directorate as a test flight officer and as an Airborne Systems Instructor on the staff of the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School from 1987 to 1990.

He earned a M.S. in Space Systems Engineering and an Aeronautical & Astronautical Engineer degree from the Naval Postgraduate School in 1991 and 1992, respectively.

While assigned to the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, Point Mugu, California, from 1992 to 1995, he served as a Flight Test Officer and acted as the Chief Test Pilot for F-14 weapons integration and software development.

From 1995 to 1998, he was the Military Deputy for the Special Programs Department at the Office of Naval Research. He also served as the Program Manager for the Department of Defense Precision Signal Intelligence Targeting System (PSTS) Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration and was awarded the ACTD Demonstration Manager of the Year for 1998.

Capt. Sorensen was assigned to the Aeronautical Systems Center, Reconnaissance System Program Office where he performed duties as Deputy Program Manager for the Global Hawk Program from 1998 to 2001. Concurrently, he performed duties as the Deputy Technology Transition Director for the Sensors Technology Directorate (AFLR/SNS).

He assumed command of the Naval Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Program Office (PMA-263) from 2002 to 2005. Under his leadership, Fire Scout VTUAV, Global Hawk, and BAMS UAV were developed. Pioneer UAV proved to be a valuable tool supporting deployed operations in Iraq for the U.S. Marine Corps as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. As the Chairman of the NATO PG-35 Maritime UAV Project Group, Capt. Sorensen led the effort for increased joint integration and coordination within NATO and published the first UAV Command and Control Standardization Agreement to support NATO UAV interoperability (NATO STANAG 4586).

Capt. Sorensen is currently serving as the Assistant Chief of Naval Research, where he is responsible for delivering new technology to the Navy and Marine Corps.

He is a designated Naval Flight Officer, Aerospace Engineering Duty Officer, and Department of Defense Acquisition Professional. His awards include the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, and the Navy Achievement Medal.